GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:825
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2016
Establishment of New Tourist Centres
Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to explore the possibilities of establishing new tourist centres in the country, specially in Bihar;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the time by which the said centres are likely to be developed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c): For development of tourism infrastructure in the country including Bihar, the Ministry of Tourism has launched two new schemes in 2014-15 viz. Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits and PRASAD-Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive.

Under Swadesh Darshan scheme thirteen thematic circuits have been identified for development namely; North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit.

Under PRASAD scheme, 23 sites of religious significance have been identified for development namely Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Amritsar (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Dwarka (Gujarat), Deoghar (Jharkhand), Belur (West Bengal), Gaya (Bihar), Guruvayoor (Kerala), Hazratbal (Jammu & Kashmir), Kamakhya (Assam), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), Puri (Odisha), Srisailam (Andhra Pradesh), Somnath (Gujarat), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu).

The details of projects sanctioned in Bihar since 2014-15 are as under:
<pre>
Swadesh Darshan Scheme: (Rs. in crore)
Sl. No. Name of the Circuit Name of the Project/Year of sanction Amt. Sanctioned
1 Buddhist Circuit Construction of Cultural Centre adjacent to Maya Sarovar on the western side at Bodhgaya, Bihar (2014-15) 33.17
2 Spiritual Circuit Development of Jain Circuit: Vaishali-Arrah-Masad-Patna-Rajgir-Pawapuri-Champapuri as Spiritual Circuit in Bihar (2016-17) 52.39

3 Spiritual Circuit Integrated Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj − Dharmshala- Deoghar under Spiritual circuit in Bihar (2016-17) 52.35

Total 137.91

</pre>
<pre>
PRASAD Scheme: (Rs. in Crore)
Sl. No. Name of the project Amt.
Sanctioned
1 Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar (2014-15) 4.27
2 Development at Patna Sahib (2015-16) 41.54
Total 45.81

</pre>
The completion time of above projects varies from 18 to 36 months.
****